

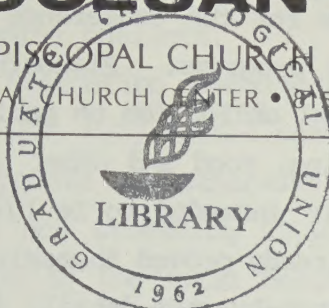
## DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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FAIR HIGHLIGHTSMODEL PROGRAMS

DPS 84109

by John B. Justice

The Communicant

HENDERSONVILLE, N.C. (DPS, May 24) — Church workers from 61 Episcopal dioceses spent May 14-16 at the Kanuga Conference Center here sharing ways to practice Christianity with rolled-up sleeves and calloused hands.

The National Models Fair attracted 160 delegates representing outreach projects with a total annual funding of more than \$12,350,000. They came from 37 states to look at models of parish outreach programs to take back for implementation in their own areas.

Entitled "Ten Parish Programs that Work — Helping the Poor in the '80s", the conference was the fruit of 18 months of planning by Marcia Newcombe, Staff Officer for Social Welfare at the Episcopal Church Center and the Executive Council's Commission on Social and Specialized Ministries. The conference's manager was the Rev. Lex S. Mathews of the Diocese of North Carolina.

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DPS 84109/2

The specific impetus for the conference was the severe cuts in federal spending for social programs. Planners for the conference felt that these imposed a special obligation on parishes to help take up the slack in health care, housing, food and other programs. Accordingly, they designed a models fair intended to be highly practical. Ten models were chosen which had already proved themselves successful. These were explained clearly and in step-by-step detail, including funding information, by the people who ran the projects — and each project was capable of being replicated in other dioceses. Initial funding for the conference was provided by an \$18,500 Jubilee grant, with scholarship assistance coming from the Coalition for Human Needs and the Social and Specialized Ministries Office.

Conference planners had hoped that every delegate would "take home" a project or two for swift implementation, and most of the delegates seemed anxious to fulfill those hopes. The tables at which models presenters sat surrounded by information on their programs were crowded with interested delegates. Afterward, an enthusiastic Newcombe said: "I cannot describe adequately the feeling at the conference, the response. Everywhere you looked there were groups of people sharing and planning. And in addition to making formal presentations, the presenters even swapped ideas with each other!"

Among the featured models were:

Mifflin County Home Repair: A work camp program that has been providing hands-on Christian help for more than 10 years in the Appalachian Mountains of Pennsylvania. Home building and home repair, food for the poor, flood disaster relief, free labor for farms, and much more are provided by this program, which was one of the first designated Jubilee centers.

Fourth Ward Medical Clinic: A \$434,000, parish-based clinic in one of Houston's poorest districts. Co-presenter Mary Lou Hall said the clinic has risen from "a shabby, rundown building to a gleaming modern clinic" and that it served about 8,500 patients last year.

Open Door: A full-service emergency assistance program for the poor operated out of an old church in downtown Cincinnati and directed by Libby Higgins, who moved back from suburbia to be in the neighborhood serviced by Open Door. The program, in operation for 12 years, has no paid staff and no board of directors. Its 40 volunteers



have a special focus on providing money management and other services for recently released mental patients.

Prescription Medication Assistance: The FIGS program (Filling in the Gaps) in Raleigh, N.C. raises money to buy prescription medications for low-income people who otherwise could not afford them. The two-year-old program is now providing \$2,500 a month for medication, which is over 60 percent of the total needed for Wake County patients without income or insurance for their medicine.

(EDITORS: A complete list of models is attached.)

A fund-raising model was presented by Ted McEachern, Executive Director of ACTS (Association for Christian Training and Service). He urged church workers not to be shy about asking for money, but to do so in a clear, organized and effective way. Among his "principles of fund-raising": "People give to people, not to programs." "People give to winners — if your fund-raising letter cries 'Crisis!' you're down the tubes." "People must be asked to give directly, specifically and right now."

McEachern also lambasted the federal cutbacks in programs for people in need, calling the slashes "copping out." He said, "In a country as prosperous as ours, we shouldn't have to be begging money to fix up a rundown house or run a medical clinic." To underscore the point, he noted that last year United Methodists alone gave \$1.3 billion for charitable purposes. An enormous amount of money and, McEachern said, almost exactly what the Pentagon spent in 1983 for its telephone bill.

The keynote address was by the Rt. Rev. John Spong, the Episcopal Bishop of Newark. He spoke specifically of urban ministry, but his remarks transfer well to social ministry in general. Calling the urban churches "outposts of the kingdom of God in the midst of the pain of the city," Spong called the purpose of urban ministry "to enable Christ to walk those city streets as if those streets were his native territory."

All ten models presentations were videotaped. These are available on VHS video tapes, running for 40-45 minutes and costing \$30.00 per model tape. Audio tapes are also available at a cost of \$5.00 per model tape. Tapes and information are available from: Metro-tape Producer Services, 3423 South Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28209.



DPS 84109/4

NATIONAL MODELS FAIR...PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS

Putting it All Together (PAT)

Winifred Brown, 60 Kent Street, Minneapolis, MN 55102

Mifflin County Home Repair

Peter Greenfield and Delores Calhoun, 32 West Chestnut Street,  
Lancaster, PA 17603

Saint Luke's Street Academy

Neil Shorthouse, 467 Cherokee Avenue, SE, Atlanta, GA 30312

Fourth Ward Medical Clinic

Lynn Kendrick and Mary Lou Hall, 277 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019

Open Door

Libby Higgins, Church of the Advent, 2366 Kemper Lane, Cincinnati,  
OH 45206

Summer Program for Children (SUPER SUMMER)

Sister Angela Margot, Saint Margaret's House, Jordan Road, New Hartford,  
NY 13413 and Peg Waterman, 307 Richardson Avenue, Utica, NY 13502

Filling In the Gaps (FIGS)

Isabella Simmons, 1213 Kershaw Drive, Raleigh, NC 27609 and  
Dorothy Lokey, 631 Macon Place, Raleigh, NC 27609

Monetta Street Project

Peter Stringer, 3447 Hampton Avenue, Nashville, TN 37215 and  
Carol Thomas, 1107 Lynwood Blvd., Nashville, TN 37215

The Rev. Edward Landers, Urban and Regional Ministries, Nashville, TN

South Central Organizing Committee (SCOC)

Hartshorn Murphy, 2800 Stanford Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011

Association for Christian Training and Services (ACTS)

Ted McEachern, 1001 18th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212

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HUNGER COMMITTEE REFLECTS

ON TEN YEARS OF CHANGE

DPS 84110

SEATTLE (DPS, May 24) -- The Episcopal Church's National Hunger Committee gathered here May 7-9 for the first of its two meetings this year. The Committee, which started as an ad hoc group in 1974 and received official sanction at the 1976 General Convention, chose as its theme: "What is the nature of our job ten years later?".

To help them with this, Nancy Amidei of the Food Research and Action Center in Washington, D.C. spoke of the notable differences between 1974 and today. At that time, she said, hunger was believed to exist mostly in Africa and Asia. There were few public or private programs in place in this country and little knowledge of what worked and why. Those involved in advocacy work had little sophistication. Hunger, where it existed in this country, was perceived as being a rural problem. While all these elements have changed for the better, conditions have worsened, she asserted. And in 1974, Congress and the public had to be pushed to respond and to expand aid in light of the evidence for hunger; now Congress and the public appear willing to cut aid despite evidence of growing need.

The Committee, which consists of nine provincial and three at-large members, also met with the hunger task force of the Diocese of Olympia and saw slides of that group's work in western Washington. Discussions were held on the Presiding Bishop's Fund's African hunger appeal, World Food Day Oct. 16, and possible connections between them.

According to the Rev. Terry L. Henry, chairman, it was all part of an attempt to "address the issue of how to be of service to the Church in the face of rising hunger both nationally and abroad. The environment has changed substantially, and the Committee needs to understand the nature of that change in order to function."

Many Committee members agreed with Dr. David Crean, staff officer for hunger at the Episcopal Church Center and liaison to the Committee, that the meeting was one of the best they had ever had. Conditions may change, but the work goes on. As Henry reminded the Committee in his theological reflection: "The witness of the National Hunger Committee can be in the area of embodying the hope that rises out of our Easter joy."

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YOUTHS CHALLENGED ON  
ATTITUDES TO DISABILITY

by Anita Monsees

The Messenger

DPS 84111

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (DPS, May 24) -- What does it feel like to be mentally retarded? To have a hearing problem? To be blind? To need a wheelchair to get from one place to another?

Young people from parishes all over the 14-county Episcopal Diocese of Central New York learned some answers to those and many other questions about disabilities by taking part in simulations at a youth forum May 12 at Trinity Church, here.

Guided by their adult leaders, the young men and women, representing grades 7 through 12, experienced disabilities at first hand and then talked about what those experiences had revealed to them and what their responses as Christians might be.

They also heard from, and talked informally with, the Rev. Nancy L. Chaffee, a recently ordained Episcopal priest who heads Central New York's ministry with persons with disabilities. Chaffee, who was born with cerebral palsy, told her listeners what it was like to buck a system that insisted she was unable to function as a whole and productive person, when she knew she could. She did note, however, the vast amount of energy which must be expended by people with disabilities simply in day-by-day coping.

In her case, cerebral palsy causes her hands to shake and, even with one hand tightly supporting the other, it is difficult for her to do something as ordinary as pick up a piece of paper. She cannot, for example, administer the chalice, and is able to distribute the bread only if someone else holds the paten.

"When I first went to seminary, I thought I would never be able to celebrate the Eucharist," she said. "But now I know that I can't be a priest all by myself. That's what ministry is all about --sharing the gifts of others in order to use our own gifts to the fullest."

She drew a distinction between disability -- "those things that interfere with the way I do things" -- and handicaps: "We become handicapped only by the attitudes of others."



DPS 84111/2

The simulation segment of the day-long gathering offered a wide variety of challenges designed to give the young people a sense of how it feels not to be in control of one's own body or mental processes. Among these were the following:

- o To gain a sense of the frustrations entailed in learning disabilities, they tried to make drawings by "remote control," relying solely on an image of their hands in a mirror.

- o They took an "unfair" spelling test, in which words were deliberately pronounced unclearly, to gain insights into hearing loss.

- o They tried getting around in a wheelchair and doing ordinary manual tasks wearing gloves.

- o They bumped their way around the room blindfolded or wearing heavily fogged glasses.

In small-group discussions, participants talked about stereotypes associated with disabilities, about their own perceptions of disabilities, and about ways in which the church community might be more accepting and more enabling. There was strong positive response to Chaffee's urging that, to begin with, one should see a disabled person first and foremost as a person, and not in terms of their disability, which represents only one facet of the total individual.

The youth forum concluded with a Eucharist at which Chaffee celebrated, assisted by the Rev. Dustin Ordway, lead rector of Central New York's Oneida Area Episcopal Consortium.

This was the third youth forum to be held in the diocese. The first, a year ago, focused on the nuclear question, and the second, last November, on chemical use and abuse.

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#### PICTURE CAPTION

#### Diocesan Youths Explore Disabilities

(84111) — The Rev. Nancy L. Chaffee, center, is surrounded by some of the young people who shared a Central New York Youth Forum on "How to Deal With Disabilities." Chaffee, who suffers from cerebral palsy, described her own efforts to become ordained in the face of bias against disabled people. She was the celebrant at the closing Eucharist for the conference.

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METROPOLITAN PANEL

EXPLORES INTERNSHIPS

DPS 84112

HOUSTON (DPS, May 24) -- New ways to develop human resources for special ministries in urban areas and ideas for building support for public education occupied members of the Standing Commission on the Church in Metropolitan Areas at its first meeting west of the Mississippi. The commission gathered here May 9-11 for three days of talks and inspection of parish programs as guests of Bishop Maurice M. Benitez of Texas, a member of the commission.

Preparing its report for the 1985 General Convention, the commission wrestled with such specifics as how to create a program under the Jubilee umbrella which would fund and oversee special urban work internships designed to get seminary graduates onto the frontier of urbanization. To satisfy the second aspect of its self-appointed task -- how to get the Episcopal Church involved in bettering public education -- the commission, chaired by Newark's Marjorie Christie, considered both a possible internship program that would place seminary graduates on public school staffs and a Volunteers for Mission emphasis on developing "people links" between inner city schools and parishes.

Dreams and problems met head-on in the lengthy and spirited discussions. The Rt. Rev. Wesley Frensdorff of Nevada -- who had been invited by the commission to help them include broader views of Church leadership -- urged development of indigenous ministries, and took the Church to task for being "developers of local dependencies, career oriented and far too money conscious. Local people must be enabled to do things for themselves. The local church must be developed and enabled to raise up its own leadership. The basic question we must all look at is 'Who owns the Church?'"

In the course of looking at that, Benitez pointed to the very real difficulties of getting older ordinands -- often with families to support -- to commit to a period of inner city work.

The commission did not just talk of the task, but went out to look at Houston area parish programs in elementary education, health, and migratory assistance and also heard from Houston school official Patricia Shell, who spoke of problems and successes of the nation's



DPS 84112/2

sixth largest system, where Hispanics currently comprise 33 percent of the student body. Speaking of the related problems of literacy and employability, she warned, "We'd better care, folks. We have to make public education better or we are all in trouble." She said clergy support is important, so much so that the superintendent of Houston schools regularly invites clergy to sit down and talk with him. She said church programs that work are "church after school," where volunteers agree to tutor; special church-run computer classes; programs for handicapped children and volunteers for teen hot lines.

Her emphasis was echoed by an Austin volunteer research specialist, Ada Harden, who described a program in her high school in which ministers are invited in to counsel drop-outs and other special cases. It works, she said, citing reduction in drop-outs, improvement in grades and attitudes. She admitted that while this works in Austin -- where "bible belt" influence is still strong -- it might be more difficult in other urban areas.

The commission agreed that its internship program focus would be on producing more able poverty area parish clergy. It also agreed on the importance of encouraging more Volunteers for Mission to serve in urban areas, and of developing creative ministries in aid of public education.

The group will work on prologues and budget requests in Louisville Oct. 17-19. All members agreed to visit one or more Jubilee centers before that time in order to fulfill the General Convention mandate to monitor the Jubilee process.

Members present for the meeting in addition to Benitez were: Bishop Alexander Stewart, New York; The Rev. Dr. Robert Hood, General Theological Seminary; the Rev. G. H. Woodard, Washington; K. Wade Bennett, Dallas; Dr. Richard Middleton, III, Mississippi; the Rev. Everett Francis, Scranton, Penn.; and Dr. Joaquin Villegas, Chicago.

The Rev. Wallace Frey, chairman of the Board for Theological Education, and the Rev. Enrique Brown, director of Connecticut's Instituto Pastoral Hispano, joined Frensdorff in bringing an outside perspectives to the panel's work.

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NEW VIDEO SPOTS

GET WIDE USAGE

DPS 84113

NEW YORK (DPS, May 24) -- The Episcopal Church continues to be successful in placing public service announcements on peace making with the major television networks.

All three networks have accepted the latest two 30-second announcements which means that, of the most recent four, only one has been turned down by one of the networks. In addition to network usage, the four have been placed in various television markets throughout the country and communication officers at the Episcopal Church Center continue to receive reports of their use, including prime time exposure.

While the current and future announcements seem to address a variety of issues, they follow the pattern of the first two this year of urging viewers to "Think, Talk, Work For Peace," in settings that range from global concerns to domestic violence.

In accepting the two current announcements, network officials singled out "Silent Night" -- about teenage suicide -- for special commendation. Urging parents to "look for the warning signs, ask the probing questions," it asserts: "Silence doesn't stop teenage suicide."

Sonia Francis, director of radio/tv and audio-visual resources at the Church Center, said that she, public issues officer, the Rev. Charles Cesaretti, and social ministries officer Marcie Newcombe decided to make the teen suicide the first of a series addressing domestic violence because they realized the growing concern over the problem. "We knew that this needed Church attention, and the comments of the networks have borne out our thinking."

The second current spot, "Share the Future," is a dance-like sequence which shows people moving from the wariness of initial contact through the joy of sharing while the announcer reiterates the "Think, Talk, Work," theme.

The domestic focus will be picked up in three spots scheduled for release in August, late September and the holiday season. These will be on spouse abuse, child abuse, and abuse of the elderly. Entertainer Jonathan Winters, who has done benefits for the Episcopal Society for Ministry with the Aging, has agreed to do the last one.

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(EDITORS: The story board for "Silent Night" is attached as 84113/2).



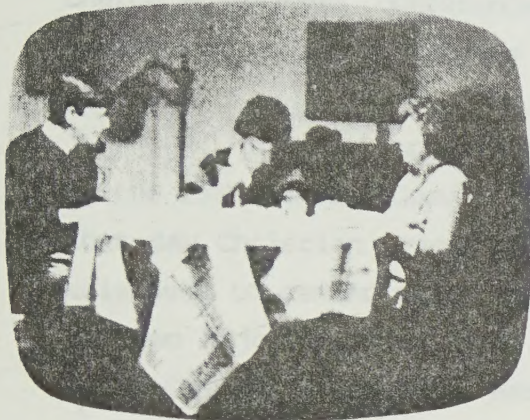




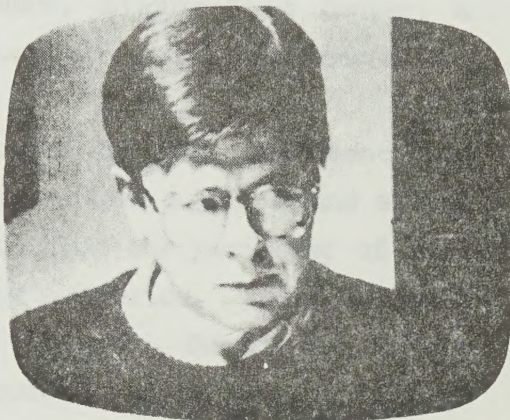
# A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE — THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

For Information: Armstrong Information Services, Inc., 141 East 44th St., New York, N.Y. 10017 (212) 986-0910

SILENT NIGHT -- :30 PSA -- #84-152



(SFX) VOICE OVER: Silence...  
doesn't stop teenage suicide.



Families that deal with the  
problem succeed in reducing  
the incidence of suicide.



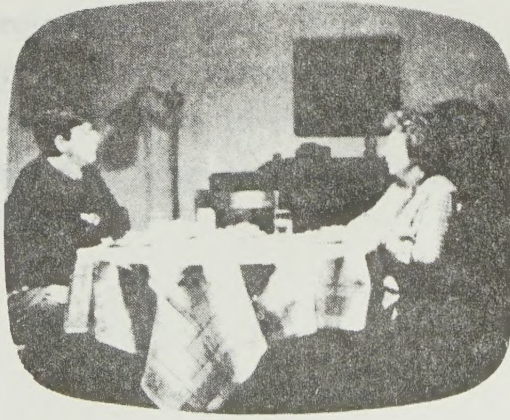
So, look for the warning  
signs. Ask the probing questions.



Don't be afraid. You can't  
give them ideas they haven't  
already thought of.



You can give them the  
information and help



that might save their life.





ENVOY, ALLIN DISCUSS

PEACE ACADEMY PLANS

DPS 84114

NEW YORK (DPS, May 24) — One year after the Episcopal Church's national conference, To Make Peace, adjourned in Denver, a variety of peace ministries and initiatives are gaining strength and momentum.

That Denver conference — which grew out of a commitment made by the 1982 General Convention -- took place within a spring and summer that saw Christian peacemaking efforts move from the perimeter of consciousness to center stage in Europe and North America. These included the two major international conferences in Uppsala, Sweden and at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Vancouver, Canada and the highly-publicized production of the Roman Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter.

Each of these elements has added to the resources and growing clarity that western Christianity is bringing to bear in the international debate over shaping a secure and just world. However, most of these efforts are carried on with little coordination or common theological thinking beyond denominational or communion boundaries.

When the Uppsala meeting was held, the final report sought to address this when, in urging the development of peace education programs, it noted that these "should encourage Christians to think theologically; to search out the causes of conflict; to explore Christian concepts of non-violent resistance to evil; and to trace the connections between disarmament and development."

The gathering — one of the most representative in modern Christian history — agreed that "the possibility of creating an International Christian Peace Institute should be explored." The Swedish Ecumenical Council has taken the lead in this initiative and, early this year, concluded that: "There are weighty arguments in favor of creating an Institute. It seems that it could add something important to the ongoing molding of public opinion, which in most cases is done through different forms of Church statements, exempt from some exceptional and very valuable research around limited problems."

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DPS 84114/2

Armed with these conclusions, the Swedish Council has set about testing international reaction. A retired Swedish diplomat, the Hon. Olle Dahlen, spent much of the Spring meeting with ecumenical and denominational leaders in the United States, including Presiding Bishop John M. Allin, whom he saw in late April.

Dahlen briefed Allin on the Council's learnings and asked him, the Church Center staff, and the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church and other agencies to explore their possible involvement, topics that such an institute should take up, and supplementary funding sources. Most of the funds will come from the Swedish Council.

The envoy has a strong background in Church-state relations and has chaired conferences of the World Council of Churches and the United Nations. He led the planning for the Uppsala Conference.

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#### PICTURE CAPTION

#### Bishop Allin, Envoy Discuss Peace Academy.

(84114) -- Presiding Bishop John M. Allin, left, greets the Hon. Olle Dahlen, a Swedish diplomat who sought out Allin's views on the proposal to establish an International Christian Peace Institute; an idea that emerged from the Christian World Conference on Life and Peace last year in Uppsala, Sweden. Alongside their shared concern for peace, the two men discovered another common interest -- trains -- instilled in them through ancestors who had been railroad men.

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